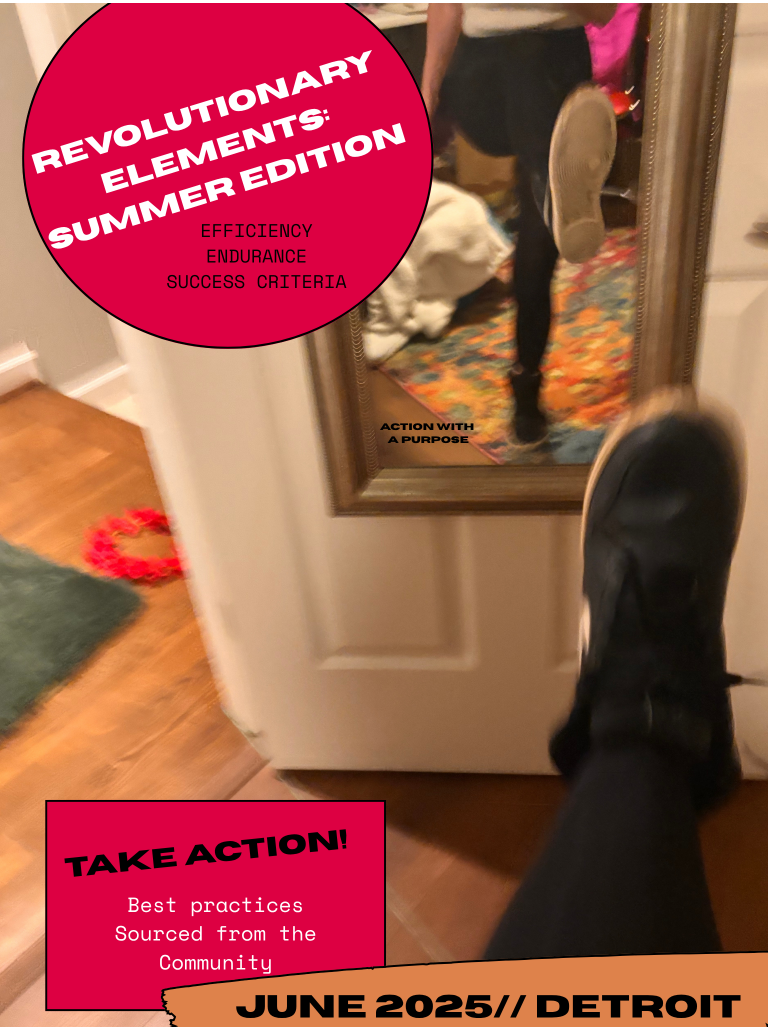
REVOLUTIONARY ELEMENTS: SUMMER EDITION

EFFICIENCY
ENDURANCE
SUCCESS CRITERIA



TAKE ACTION!

Best practices
Sourced from the
Community

JUNE 2025// DETROIT

CHANGE ON AN ELEMENTAL LEVEL, SPRING 2025

For those that choose to turn Action into Change. These pages provide the tools to generate meaning from experiences for yourself and others, shaping the story of our Movement.

ACTION ON AN ELEMENTAL LEVEL, SUMMER 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THEORY ON ACTION AS PRACTICE

Quotes on Action from Revolutionaries

Story Shaping to create meaning from Action

SUCCESS CRITERIA

Cadillac and Fort Detroit, 1701

Revolutionary Elements, 2025

EFFICIENCY

Assembly Line at Highland Park, 1913

Distant Feeling, 2025

ENDURANCE

Dally in the Alley in Cass Coordior, 1976

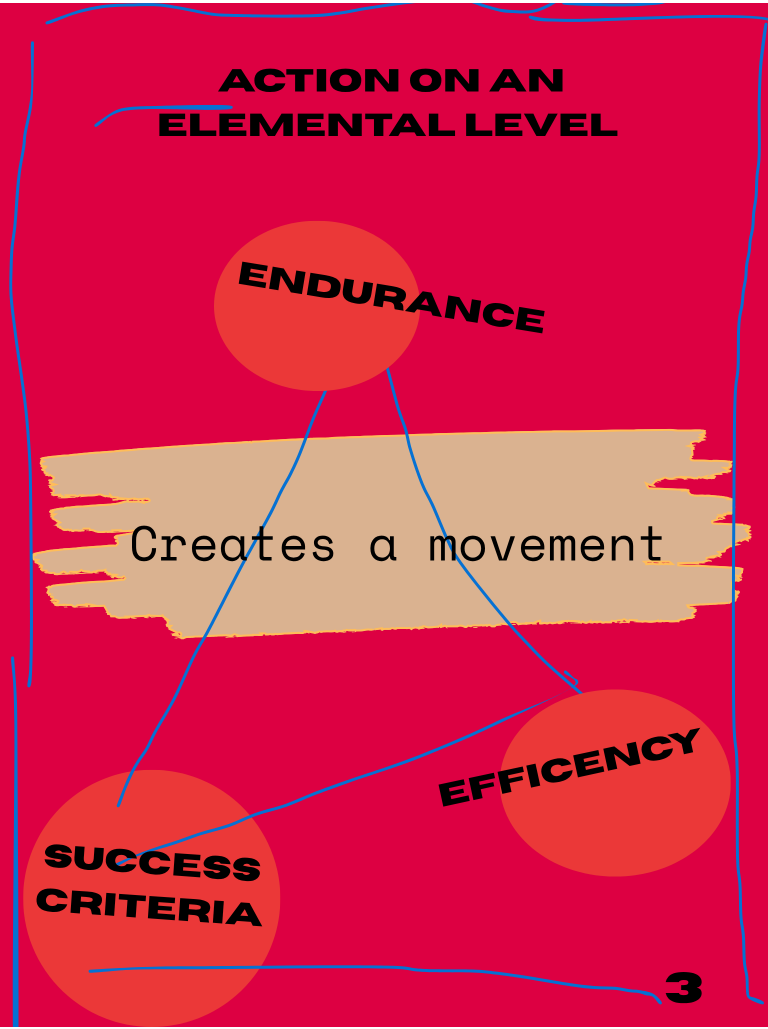
Chess Club, 2025

REVOLUTIONARY PRACTICE

Bucket list, 2025

Revolutionary Table of Elements

ACTION ON AN ELEMENTAL LEVEL



THEORY ON ACTION AS PRACTICE

Taking Action is given meaning when using Story Shaping tools:

success criteria: the node, efficiency-the method and endurance, the purpose.

A fractal approach to taking action, derived from Detroit's Past, the following are stories From Detroit's community in 1701, 1913 and 1976. These stories are intended to incite meaning or action.

In 2025, Story Shaping tools are being used to connect our experiences to power our movement

z, Story Shaper

ONE OUNCE OF PRACTICE IS WORTH A THOUSAND POUNDS OF THEORY

A SMILE INCREASE ENDURANCE

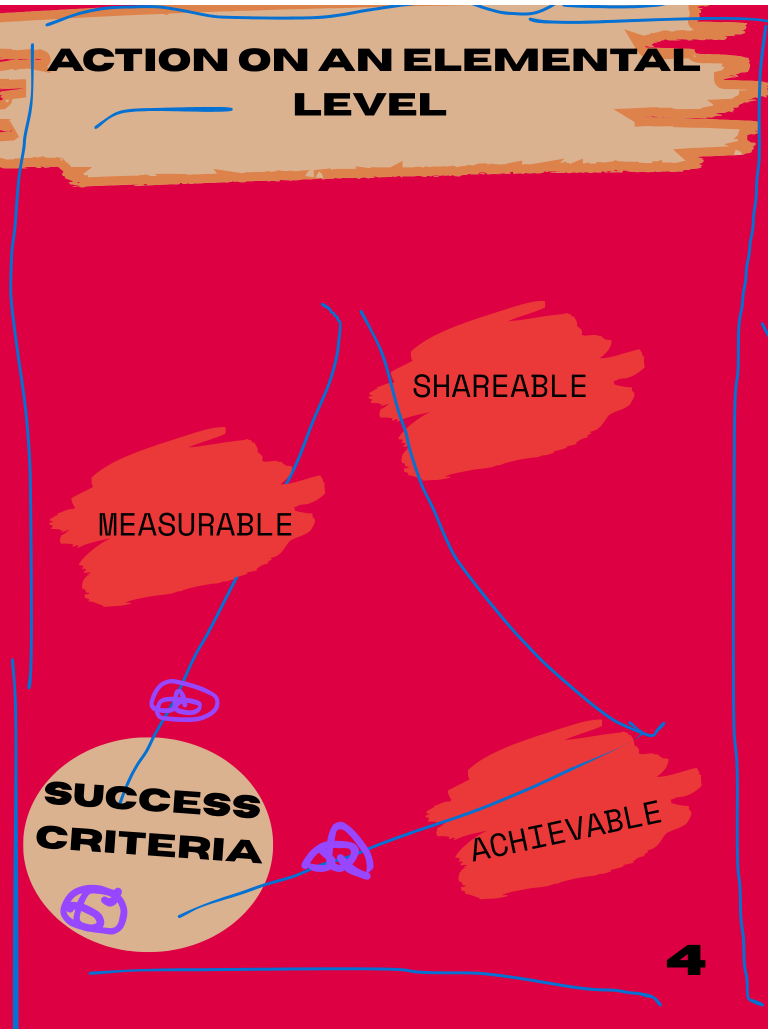
PURSUIT OF NECESSITY

DOMINATION IS COMES FROM IMPOTENCE

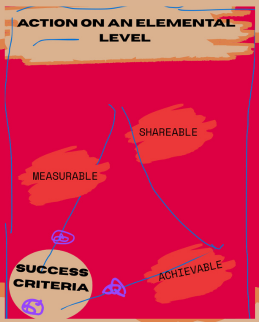
QUANTITY INTO QUALITY

IF IT GROWS, IT CAN BE MEASURED

ACTION ON AN ELEMENTAL LEVEL



SUCCESS CRITERIA



In 1701, men set sail from Montreal setting a foundation from which to ignite a new source of power. Where the water bent, Detroit was built. The success criteria was simple, work for what you need and connect for what you want. The people of Detroit's first generation, isolated physically but connected through exchanging of their goods and labor across the world. The doing it sets in motion creativity, engendering evolution in our surroundings and ourselves. Detroit, a river and a straight, a paradise and a trap- it is what you put into it. The story is the success criteria and it's the only true thing one owns in this world, it's up for you to define it.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

A SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF

ANTOINE DE LA MOTHE CADILLAC

FOUNDER OF DETROIT.

BY C. M. BURTON.

For these several reasons Cadillac was directed to proceed by the upper route and to come down the coasts of Lake Huron and traverse the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers until a suitable place was found on which to erect his fort. From expressions to be found in some of Cadillac's letters it appears that he had never personally visted the Detroit River. It is very probable, however, that some of his followers had been there before and knew the situation of the river and the nature of the country.

Makes a Start.

On the 2d of June, 1701, he set out from Montreal with 100 men—fifty soldiers and fifty civilians—and three months' provisions. He took the upper course as indicated in the letter of de Callieres, making thirty portages on his trip. The task of choosing a proper site was not an easy one. It must be situated on high land to be healthful. It must have a full command of the river, so that no one could pass by unnoticed. It must be in a place attractive to the Indians, for it was proposed to invite the Indians to settle here. It must avoid the difficulties that had surrounded previous settlements that had gone to decay.

The French had for years wandered and hunted over the lands they were now about to ocupy permanently, and some fifteen years previous to this time (about 1685) a small fort or block house used as a trading post and protection against hostile Indians had been built on the west shore of the St. Clair River near its head, not far from the place subsequently occupied by Fort Gratiot, the present city of Port Huron. This post also bore the name of Detroit, though the mis-

to a certain extent acted upon at once. The fort being well under way and everyone being happy and contented, Cadillac sent Lieutenant Chacornacle with five men back to Quebec to bear the tidings of their summer's work, and Chacornacle proceeded directly to France to place the plans of Cadillac for the future personally before the minister.

Growth in Population.

So well had Cadillac laid the foundation of his frontier city that before eight months had passed away it had a population that was not again equaled in number for nearly one hundred and fifty years. Behold the city built by the Aladdin's lamp that our hero carried! When the first year had rolled around, Cadillac wrote to the minister: "All that I have the honor to state to you has been done in one year, without its having cost the king a cent and without costing the company more than it ought, and in twelve months we have put ourselves in a position to do without provisions from Canada forever, and all this undertaking was carried out with three months' provisions, which I took when I set out from Montreal, which were consumed in the course of the journey. This proves whether Detroit is a desirable or an undesirable country. Besides this nearly SIX THOUSAND mouths of different tribes wintered there, as everyone knows. This is the Paradise of North America."

With such glowing accounts as these—with the establishment of a city in the wilderness—it is not to be wondered at that great faith was placed in his ability by those in authority. Nor is it likewise to be wondered at that the thunders of the Jesuits should be turned against the man who was pow-

A sketch of the life of Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac, founder of Detroit [microform]
by Burton, C. M. (Clarence Monroe), 1863-1959

ine de la Mothe Cadillac,
rm]

Page - 20/35

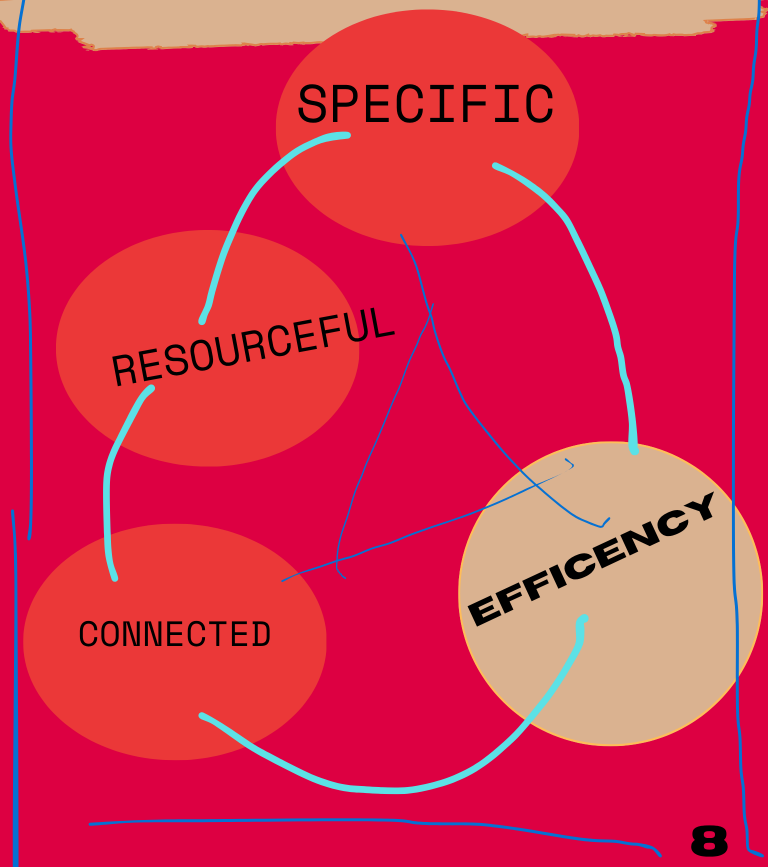
Favorite | Share

SUCCESS CRITERIA

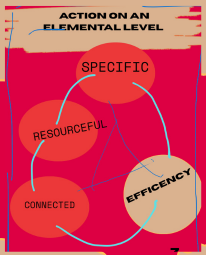
REVOLUTIONARY ELEMENTS, 2025

A magazine, but more like a project, Revolutionary Elements is a Detroit Story Shaper Production. Conceptualized as a method to channel theory and practice from experiences in Detroit in 2025. Based on Trotsky's notion of elemental level of Revolution expressed in his History of the Russian Revolution. Change on element level necessitates action on an elemental level. The success criteria is in the setting of deadlines, themes, and conversation that the magazine process engenders. Though it is not sufficient, it is done. the doing it, the releasing it, the action is the success criteria from which a power source is ignited.

ACTION ON AN ELEMENTAL LEVEL

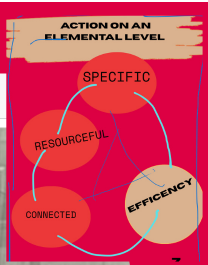


EFFICENCY

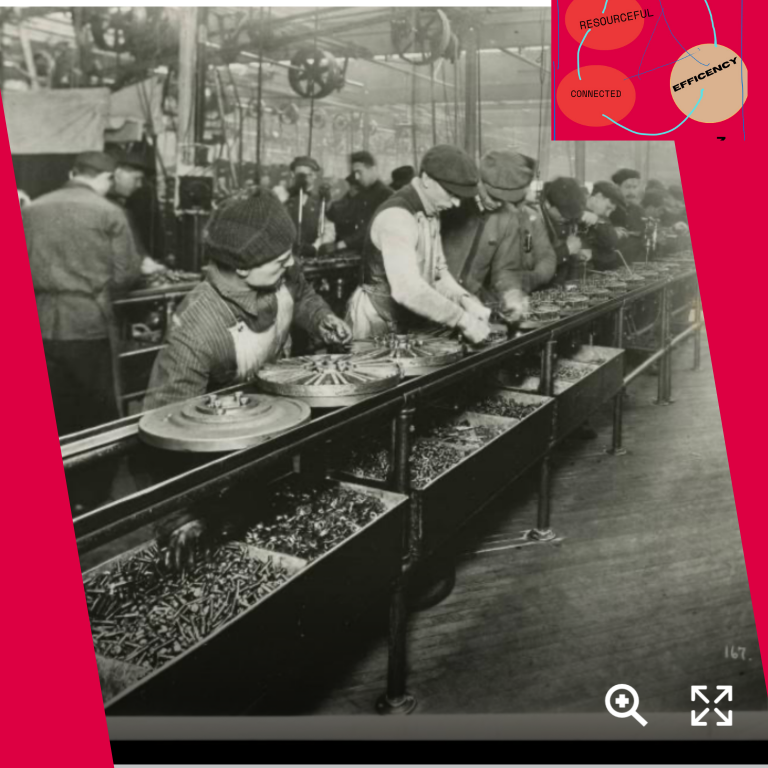


The next stop in our taking action journey, goes right to where you think it should; Henry Ford's assembly line (established 1913) whose achievement was the elimination of excess time by maximizing efficiency of action. This meant specialization by breaking down each component and finding opportunities for prolonging the action by eliminating inaction. In-action was eliminated by passing the task up or down and on to the next ready and willing participant. The assembly line, a Detroit cultural necessity, born from a city where work is valued, an assembly line efficiently shows that each person can add value. Just like our river brings people and things, potentially outside of our desire to Detroit, an assembly line brought cars to the workers. Efficiency is about bringing the tasks to you and others, whatever that looks like. Efficiency is the sequential order of time, action and using the least of amount of inputs, for maximum outputs.

EFFICENCY

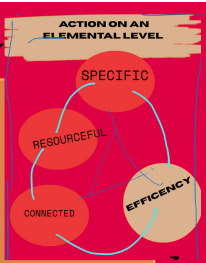


thehenryford.org



Magneto Assembly at the Ford Highland Park Plant, 1913

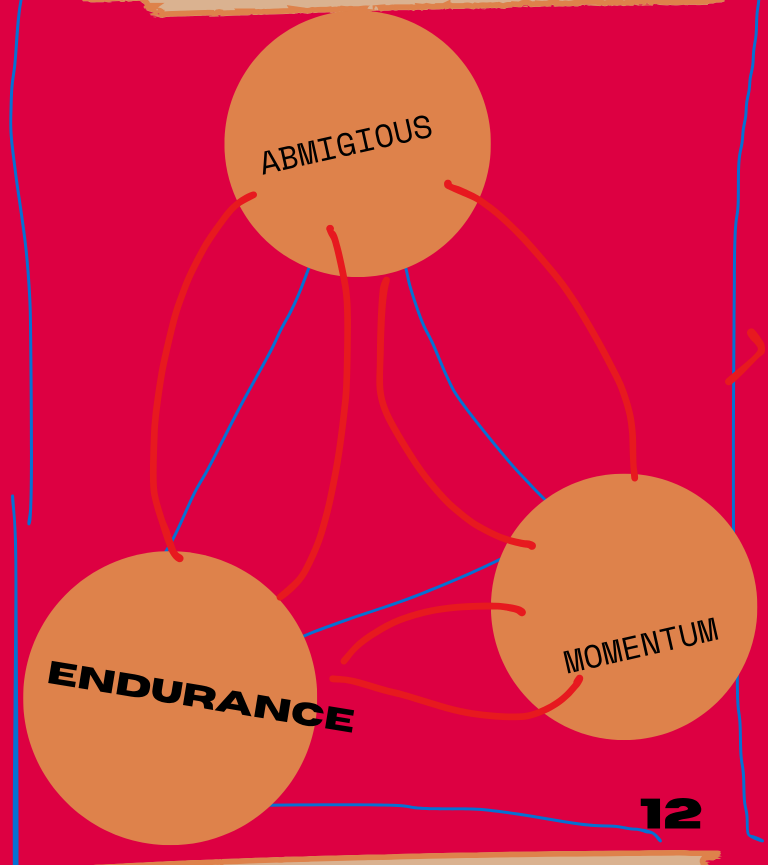
EFFICENCY



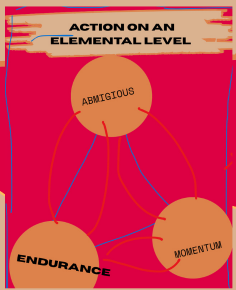
Distant Feelings, 2025

A visual and auditory experience, a chance to support two friends with one immersive time shared through the senses and connections. Learning together, efficiency creates consistency- a replicable format expressed in the repeating created sounds and moving sights.

ACTION ON AN ELEMENTAL LEVEL

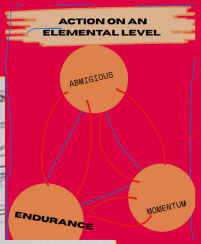


ENDURANCE



Dally in the Alley is a party held in Cass Corridor, but more than a party it's a movement whose pathways to community organizing incited the pages you are reading. North Cass Community Union formed in 1976 declared themselves an action group, a pressure group and a social group. These three components create an enduring momentum through which a community can harness its capital and direct it towards actionable outcomes. In 1977 the Action of a Party called Dally in the Alley raised funds to release the Pressure placed on the people living in homes up for eviction and demolition in in Cass Corridor. Dally in the Alley, held every yearish without commercial support, exists due to its following of organizational principals derived from conditions in Detroit. Every year Dally in the Alley is the fruits of the labor of the community. The Party is a sweet treat, but it's the after clean-up-Party where the real feast meets.

ENDURANCE



WE WANT YOUR IDEAS

Our neighborhood has been ignored for a long time; caught between the demands
Wayne State University for space and the demands of government agencies who try to
use the lower Cass Corridor as an institutional dumping ground. This area is thou
of as a transient place where students can spend the winter and depart, never notic
ing the problems around them. And we have lacked the organization necessary to
voice our problems and effect some sort of solution. For this reason, the North Ca
Community Union has been formed in the area just south of Wayne State University.

Larger groups already in existence can't always deal with small neighborhood
problems and aspirations. We are both a pressure group and an action group and
in part, a social group, and we began our organization this winter.

So far, we have written a proposal to get federal money to save some buildin
in the area, to change vacant lots into park space, and to provide trash receptacl
to help keep our streets and alleys clean. We have written letters protesting
demolitions. Of course, we don't know whether our actions so far will be success
ful, but it is certain that the more people who are involved, the better our
chances.

Trying to stop unnecessary demolition (now called "clearing" by city officia
nd wholesale moving of people is obviously a matter of concern to many of us. Bu
here are other ways in which we can work together to preserve and improve our
eighborhood.

1. Pressure should be exerted on Wayne State University to stop them from tearing down buildings to make parking lots.

2. The City should not use this neighborhood as a playground for city planners.

3. The City must provide adequate services; i.e., the street lights around here must be kept up, snow should not be shovelled over our sidewalks, the garbage must be collected, etc.

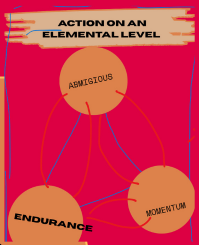
4. A community organization can exert pressure on landlords to force them to provide satisfactory living conditions.

We need you -- your ideas, your support, and your action.

COME TO OUR MEETING: Monday, February 27 in the Central Alliance Church,
616 W. Hancock (corner of Second) at 7:00P.M.

NEIGHBORS.

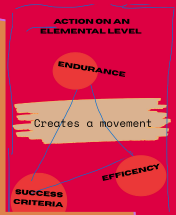
ENDURANCE



CHESS CLUB, 2025

A Club, but more like a group, of individuals who meet to flex their skills and connect over vibes generated from the challenge of chess. For Four years the Chess Club has met, attracting waves of participants and levels, ensuring momentum for this enduring event.

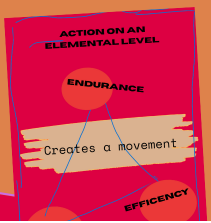
SUMMER 2025 BUCKET LIST// Z EDITION



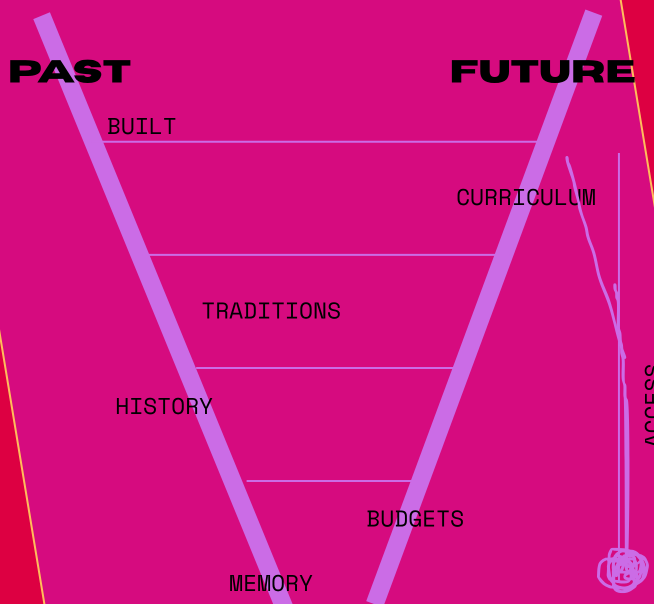
1. Summer Edition: Revolutionary Elements
2. Competition: Bike and Weight Lifting
3. Crochet Flowers in Park
4. Bike to Belle Isle and Swim
5. Finish a Book with Pages
6. Interview Elders
7. Go to a Party in Windsor
8. Apply to one Art/Writers Competition/Gallery
9. Perform on Stage
10. Show my movies publicly

SUMMER 2025 BUCKET LIST// FRIENDS AND FAMILY EDITION

1. Camping
2. Party at My House with Djs
3. Croquet at Old Miami
4. Eastern Market and Progressive Dinner Party
5. Community Bike Party: Sandwiches and Swimming
6. Kayak Trip
7. Dia Art Day
8. Pool Party at Parents
9. Boat with Friends
10. Craft Night with Friends



REVOLUTIONARY TABLE OF ELEMENTS



STABILITY OF ELEMENT*